for recognition of minority managed educational institutions were issued on 5.10.1989 to the Education Secretaries of all the States and Union Territories and recirculated on 11.1.1996. However, the entire matter of minority educational institutions is now under consideration of a 11 member bench of the Supreme Court in the case of T.M.A. Pai Foundation & Others Vs. State of Karnataka & Others. Since the outcome of the case may have a bearing on the norms and principles, these have not been further reiterated for the present.

Adverse effects of Cultural Tourism

3461. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has called for stringent measures to counter the adverse effects of the growing trend of cultural tourism on historical buildings and monuments; and

(b) if so, the effective steps taken to prevent encroachment of the monuments which form rich cultural heritage of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Archaeological Survey of India accords priority to the preservation and protection of monuments when considering proposals for promoting cultural tourism. All efforts are made to ensure that exposure of centrally protected monuments for cultural tourism does not adversely affect their conservation.

(b) Appropriate action is taken under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants) Act, 1971 as and when required.

Enforcement of Anti-Child Marriage Laws

3462. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the practice of minor girls giving birth to children is still prevalent in many parts of the country as the girls are married off before they attain the age of 15 years particularly in Rajasthan, U.P., Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to strictly enforce the anti-child marriage laws in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per Census, 1991, there were 21.50 lakhs minor girls married in the age group of 10-14 years in the country.

(c) Government of India had enacted the Child Marriage Restraint Act in 1929 which was amended in 1978 to raise the minimum age for marriage for boys to 21 years and for girls to 18 years. The implementation of this Act is the responsibility of State Governments.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women & Child Development) has been urgaing State Government/UT Administrations regularly to strictly implement the provisions of the Act and to take up awareness generation campaigns and other measures to prevent child marriages.

Money Spent by ICHR on Economic History of India Project

3463. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has so far been spent by the Indian Council of Historical